

EFFORTS TO END LIFE

Three Attempts at Suicide by

William H. McKay

IN THE JAIL AT ROCKVILLE

Alleged Murderer of Mrs. Mary Lang,
His Mother-in-Law.

EXPLAINS HE HAD A "SPELL"

Complains of Rigors of Confinement
—Declares He is Tired of
Living.

Special Dispatch to The Star.

ROCKVILLE, Md., March 16.—The fears of Jailer William Trail that William H. McKay, who is in jail here charged with the murder of his aged mother-in-law, Mrs. Mary Lang, near Wheaton, last Saturday night, would attempt to do himself bodily harm were well founded when proved about 7 o'clock yesterday evening, when the prisoner made three attempts to end his life. He first deliberately threw himself down the stairway at the jail, falling a distance of eight or nine feet. He struck on his side and rolled down several steps to the floor below.

Several of the prisoners ran to where the old man lay, but without their assistance he regained his feet. He immediately proceeded to butt his head against the wall, repeating it several times. About this time Jailer Trail appeared on the scene and escorted McKay to his cell. As the jailer turned to leave the prisoner rammed his head against the iron grating which served as a door. Mr. Trail returned to the cell at once and with difficulty restrained the man from further attempts to injure himself. McKay was not seriously injured. The top of his head was considerably bruised and he complained of his side pains, but otherwise he seemed to be none the worse for his experience.

Takes Advantage of Opportunity.

McKay's rash act was committed soon after supper, while he and the other prisoners were enjoying the liberty of the jail corridors for exercise. The old man was noticed to have held of the iron railing around the stairway, and before any one could realize what his purpose was he threw himself down the area.

About an hour previous McKay handed to Erskine Bellows, a negro prisoner, a hymn book, which had been given to him by Rev. Thomas H. Campbell, pastor of the Baptist Church, and asked him to sing "Rock of Ages." Upon its conclusion he asked for "Jesus, Lover of My Soul" to be sung. While the hymns were being rendered McKay wept convulsively. McKay seemed to be in better shape this morning than at any time since his incarceration. He stated that he had a good night's rest and that he felt first rate. When questioned in regard to his actions last evening he explained that he had a spell. Last night, however, he declared that he was tired of life and wanted to die, and would like to be buried in Rock Creek cemetery. He stated that he had been unjustly accused of a terrible crime; that he wanted to go home and couldn't, and that he had tried to kill himself and was liable to do it again.

Visited by Attorney.

McKay was visited in his cell this morning by his lawyer, Edward C. Peter. Mr. Peter talked with him for some time and endeavored to comfort him. He told him how foolish he had been in attempting to destroy himself, urged him to brace up and not lose his nerve, and got him to promise that he would not attempt to injure himself. States Attorney Peter visited the jail last night and endeavored to get McKay to talk about the case. The prisoner, however, said very little, but persisted in his denial that he is guilty of the charge against him.

At the states attorney's instance Jailer Trail spent last night at McKay's cell door and this morning was standing by to play to keep an eye on the man so that he could do himself no harm. In discussing his family today McKay stated that he had raised a fine lot of children with one exception. He referred to a son who he said had always been a source of trouble to him. From his conversation it was learned that the old man believes this boy murdered Mrs. Lang and endeavored to make it appear that the prisoner had been committed by the father. Prison life seemed to be telling on the prisoner. He said this morning he was used to being outdoors and would surely die if kept penned up much longer.

STOCK PRICES BETTER.

Buying Continued on a Large Scale
Today.

NEW YORK, March 16.—Brokers reported a continuance of investment buying at the opening of the stock market today, but traders sold for profits, and this, together with fears of an adverse bank statement, gave the market a slight setback soon after the opening. The list made full recovery, however, and prices became generally better than at the opening.

In banking circles it was said that the drastic liquidation had strengthened the financial situation, but the hope was expressed that the market's recovery would not be too precipitate.

A squeeze of shorts developed in the stock market in the last half hour of the short session, which resulted in a wild flight of prices. The buying had been on a very large scale all day, and strong advances had occurred. The buyers sought to take advantage of a setback when realizing of profits was in progress after the appearance of the bank statement.

Their rush to cover was met by Union Pacific 8 1/2 points, Smelter 7 1/2, Reading 5 1/2, and the Hill stocks, Southern Pacific 3 1/2, Paul, Pennsylvania, United States Steel preferred and Amalgamated Copper 3 1/2 points. These advances were not all held and the market closed with exciting buying by the bears and eager profit taking by the bulls going on simultaneously.

MAKE A SELECTION.

Lot at 17th and Gales Streets for Public Playground.

The Commissioners have selected a lot at 17th and Gales streets for use as a public playground. The square is bounded by 17th, Gales, Calver and Eames streets and contains 227,563 square feet, and is offered by Joseph I. Weller for \$31,000.

Congress has appropriated \$75,000 for the purchase of public playgrounds in the District. After the land has been purchased by the Commissioners it will be turned over to the playgrounds committee for equipment. The appropriation is immediately available and will soon be turned over for the maintenance of the new playground. According to present plans it will have a base ball diamond, horizontal bars, swings and other athletic apparatus.

Funeral of John J. Freeland.

Funeral services over the remains of John J. Freeland, who died Thursday at the Homeopathic Hospital, were held at 2 o'clock this afternoon at the family residence, 13 7th street southeast. The services were conducted by Commander J. D. Bloodgood of Lincoln Post No. 3, G. A. R., of which the deceased was a member. The pallbearers were Col. R. F. Chase, A. H. Feathers, A. H. Myers, S. W. McElderry, John Morrison and W. T. Evans of Lincoln Post. Interment was made in Rock Creek cemetery.

Mr. Freeland was employed in the pension office and was one of the best-known Grand Army men. His wife and three children, Carl Freeland of New York, Guy Freeland and Miss James Robt of this city, survive him.

NOTED LINGUIST'S DEATH

Dr. Albert S. Gatschet Succumbs to Disease.

NATIVE OF SWITZERLAND

Devoted Much of His Life to Scientific Research.

AUTHOR OF NUMEROUS WORKS

Made Special Study of American Indians and Tribal Languages—Resided in Washington.

The many friends in Washington of Dr. Albert S. Gatschet were shocked by the announcement of his death today at his home, 2022 15th street northwest. Dr. Gatschet was one of the best-known scholars and linguists in the city, and his writings upon both ancient and modern languages have been of great value to the student life of this country and Europe as well.

Arrangements for the funeral have not yet been made.

Albert Samuel Gatschet, linguist and ethnologist, was born October 3, 1832, in the village of St. Beatenberg, canton of Berne, Switzerland, the son of Rev. Carl Albert Gatschet and Mary Ziegler. His elementary education was acquired in the colleges of Neuchatel and Berne. Then he followed courses preparatory to university studies, upon which he entered in 1852, and which included history, logic, theology and archeological courses in the Universities of Berne and Berlin. The degree of doctor in philosophy was conferred upon him "honoris causa." In the year 1852 by the University of Berne, Dr. Gatschet's leanings were always toward languages and their comparative study, and the first results of his endeavors that appeared in type were studies of the German and Rumanian dialects of Switzerland, entitled "Ortsymologische Forschungen aus der Schweiz," which were published in numbers from 1855 to 1857.

In the latter year he spent a few months in London, pursuing antiquarian investigations in the British Museum, and in 1858 came to the United States, settling first in New York city. His early literary activity in America included reports upon Shoshonian and other Indian dialects, which had been committed to writing by members of Lieut. Geo. M. Wheeler's geographical and geological survey of the territories west of the hundredth meridian. These articles, though short and of no special merit, attracted the attention of Maj. J. W. Powell, the director of one of the three United States geological surveys, and at that period annually to explore the resources of the far west.

Appointed Ethnologist.

Gatschet was appointed "ethnologist" of Powell's geological survey in March, 1877, and remained in that position until July 1, 1879, when the bureau of ethnology was established and Gatschet transferred to that branch of the government service. Maj. Powell remained at the head of this bureau from 1879 until his demise, and the three geological surveys having been consolidated into one Congress made him director of the joint surveys.

From 1877 to 1887 Gatschet's collections of Indian manuscripts in the Smithsonian Institution were placed at Dr. Gatschet's disposal. The first task incumbent on him was to arrange them according to the linguistic families to which they belonged. By his and other subsequent classifications it was found that in North America within the area north of Mexico there are fifty-eight families. Of this, the article "Indian Linguistic Families," prepared by J. W. Powell and embodied in the "Seventh Annual Report of the Bureau of Ethnology, 1881," gives full particulars and is accompanied by a lexicon of the words of the various lexicon-octavo, and will soon be supplemented by a synonymy of tribal names.

After this classifying work had been well started Gatschet was commissioned to begin a full examination of a number of Indian tribes of the Pacific coast. He visited, in chronological order, the Ojaki at Chilo, in the Sacramento valley, California; the Klamath lake and Modoc Indians of southern Oregon; the Kalapuyas and Modoc of northwestern Oregon; and the other natives he found on his route. He had now material enough on hand to select a few tribes for intensive study. He chose the Klamath of Oregon, since supplemented by additions obtained from the Modoc Indians, who had been living as exiles in the Indian Territory since 1878.

work appeared in two quarto fascicles, forming volume II, parts 1 and 2, of Powell's "Report on the North American Ethnology," Washington, 1880.

Re-Examination Causes Delay.

The cause which delayed the completion of the Klamath work until 1890 was the determination of the director that all linguistic families should be re-examined, to establish this standing upon a true and undeniable basis, so that the tribes who speak them may be assigned their definite and irrevocable position in the array of American nations. Hence the bureau sent out a number of linguists to ascertain matters in such portions of the United States with which they appeared to be best acquainted. On one of these trips, begun in December, 1881, Gatschet discovered that the Catawba of South Carolina had to be placed with the Sioux or Dakotan stock of the west, but that the Shetima of Louisiana, spoken in St. Mary's parish near Chenavon, formed a linguistic family of itself.

His expedition covering several months brought him in contact with the Tonkawa, better Tankawa, Indians, who called themselves "Tishkawa," a great simplicity in morphology and syntax; and from there went northward to welcome the remnants of the Modoc Indians, who had been exiled into the northeast corner of the Indian Territory since the discovery of the Modoc Indians. The ethnologic texts obtained among these natives will prove to be of great value to the student of the Indian language, and to get a correct idea of the inwardness of the southwestern Indian life and tendencies.

Prairie Tribes.

While passing through the southwest in the fall of 1889 he directed his attention mainly on the prairie tribes of the Cheyennes and Arapahoes, who then resided upon the reserve named after them. Here also he met with good success in securing vocabularies, paradigms, sentences and instructive texts showing the natural "talk" of the natives, and accompanied by all necessary comments for a full understanding. All travelers who met the Arapaho braves have been surprised by the musical and poetic character of their speech. The other dialects of the extensive Algonkin family, which were studied, or at least examined by Gatschet, are the Abnaki group consisting of the Penobscot at Old Town, the Passamaquoddy at Eastport, Me., and the Micmac dialects opposite Digby, Nova Scotia, up to the northern end of the peninsula, and the eastern half of New Brunswick. Cree, Naskapi, Ottawa and Ojibwa Indians have not as yet been studied in their homes by our explorer, but the Pottawatomes, Sacs or Ojaki, Foxes or Makwaki with the Kikapoes were seen in person and rich ethnographic details obtained.

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much more time and trouble than to write it down makes it doubtful whether we will ever see the bulk of it in print. Of the central Algonkin forms of speech, particularly, the vocabularies of the Foxes, Shawanoe (or Shawnee), the latter Indians being about 1,200 strong, all settled in Oklahoma.

What He Accomplished.

Although Mr. Gatschet had not attempted to write grammars, dictionaries or texts of languages or dialects spoken in Mexico, Central America or South America, he has tried at least to give an idea of the Creek or Muskogian proper, formerly spoken in Alabama and Georgia, by publishing Tehkili-Kashta legends in Creek and in his interesting sister dialect, the Hitchiti, which is still in use among the lower Creek Indians, with glossaries and a critical analysis and grammar in both dialects. Gatschet's vocabularies of Kossati, Altamau, Chicasa and Chatta, all of them Muskogian dialects, were also handed over to the bureau of American ethnology.

The private life of Dr. Gatschet passed rather quietly, and was interrupted only at times by scientific excursions, undertaken to enlarge the collections of the bureau; they never carried him beyond the limits of the United States and Canada. He had lived in Washington, D. C., since 1877, and was married December 18, 1882, to Louise, eldest daughter of Roger Horner of Philadelphia.

Health failed so far that he was unable to pursue his researches further, and on March 1, 1905, he was placed on furlough.

TRIAL NEARS AN END

THAW CASE PROBABLY GOES TO THE JURY FRIDAY.

NEW YORK, March 16.—"Thank God, the end is in sight!"

This was the fervent whisper of District Attorney Jerome at the Thaw trial yesterday, uttered loud enough for the reporters to hear, following a favorable decision by Justice Fitzgerald regarding the Hummel affidavit. The strain on those attending the trial has been severe. Justice Fitzgerald, uttered loud enough for the reporters to hear, following a favorable decision by Justice Fitzgerald regarding the Hummel affidavit. The strain on those attending the trial has been severe.

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Hummel Affidavit.

The sensational affidavit which Mr. Jerome fought so hard to get into the evidence probably will be read by Justice Fitzgerald. It is generally believed, however, that Monday and Tuesday will see the close of evidence, and that the case will be used in summing up. There is every reason to believe that Friday will put the fate of Harry K. Thaw in the hands of the jury, unless some unexpected development occurs.

It is not thought that Mr. Delmas will object to its reading on a Monday. The affidavit gives Evelyn Nesbit's story of the wanderings of herself and Thaw on the continent during the time according to the affidavit, Thaw being her several times in an effort to make her swear to a document charging White with having seduced her. The affidavit also declares that Evelyn Nesbit submitted to the lashings of a whip according to the linguistic families to which they belonged. By his and other subsequent classifications it was found that in North America within the area north of Mexico there are fifty-eight families. Of this, the article "Indian Linguistic Families," prepared by J. W. Powell and embodied in the "Seventh Annual Report of the Bureau of Ethnology, 1881," gives full particulars and is accompanied by a lexicon of the words of the various lexicon-octavo, and will soon be supplemented by a synonymy of tribal names.

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BONA FIDE CIRCULATION OF THE EVENING AND SUNDAY STAR.

The sworn statement below shows that the circulation of THE STAR is what it is claimed to be. The circulation of THE STAR for the week, including and combining its evening and Sunday morning issues, is the largest, the best and the most profitable circulation of any paper of each day, covering all issues, in the District of Columbia.

In both its evening and Sunday morning issues it has a larger carrier delivery circulation into the homes of Washington than any other two local papers combined.

THE SUNDAY STAR viewed separately has the largest, the best and the only sworn circulation in the District of Columbia.

Fifteen thousand of THE STAR'S regular subscribers take no other Washington paper whatever in their homes, depending upon THE STAR alone for news and advertising.

THE STAR, daily and Sunday, thoroughly covers the local advertising field, reaching all classes of Washington purchasers, rich and poor alike, in their homes, on every day in the week, at an hour when they have the time and inclination to read a newspaper.

SATURDAY, March 9, 1907..... 39,496
SUNDAY, March 10, 1907..... 34,998
MONDAY, March 11, 1907..... 57,135
TUESDAY, March 12, 1907..... 36,977
WEDNESDAY, March 13, 1907..... 36,968
THURSDAY, March 14, 1907..... 37,054
FRIDAY, March 15, 1907..... 37,002
Total for the week..... 239,666
Average..... 37,007

I solemnly swear that the above statement represents only the number of copies of THE EVENING and SUNDAY STAR circulated during the seven days ending March 15, 1907, that is, the number of copies actually sold, delivered, furnished or mailed, for valuable consideration, to bona fide purchasers or subscribers—and that the copies so counted are not returnable to remain in the office unsold, except in the case of Sunday papers sent to out-of-town agents only, from whom a few returns of unsold papers have not yet been received.

J. WHIT. HERRON,
Business Manager,
The Evening Star Newspaper Company.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this sixteenth day of March, A.D. 1907.

W. SPENCER ARMSTRONG,

(Seal.) Notary Public.

AT THE WHITE HOUSE

No Statement in Regard to Railroad to Be Made.

MR. MELLE TO COME HERE

Whether Representing Roads or as Personal Friend Not Known.

NAVY YARD SALARIES DIFFER

No Uniformity in Wages of the Same Class of Employees Complain of.

There were circumstantial reports today that the President would give out a statement defining his attitude as to railroads, but it was ascertained later that this was incorrect. The President was asked by some of his callers as to his attitude, and in one case at least, he made his name familiar to the President. The private life of Dr. Gatschet passed rather quietly, and was interrupted only at times by scientific excursions, undertaken to enlarge the collections of the bureau; they never carried him beyond the limits of the United States and Canada. He had lived in Washington, D. C., since 1877, and was married December 18, 1882, to Louise, eldest daughter of Roger Horner of Philadelphia.

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INVESTIGATION OF THE BROWNSVILLE AFFAIR.

Investigation of the Brownsville Affair.

CONVERSATION OVERHEARD

Alleged Reason for Firing Against the Fort.

TO INTIMIDATE THE NEGROES

Report Completed of Experts Who Have Examined Some of the Cartridges Used August 13.

The testimony taken before the Senate committee on military affairs today did not develop any especially important facts, but added evidence concerning the happenings on the night of August 13, when, it is said, Brownsville was "shot up."

Senator Warren, chairman, announced that next Monday the committee would receive the report from officers of the War Department concerning the examinations that have recently been made of cartridges found at Brownsville.

Five witnesses were examined today, one being a civilian and resident of San Antonio, and the others being colored soldiers, all members of Company C, 25th Infantry.

Shots Fired at the Fort.

L. H. Fritz, the civilian of San Antonio, said he had heard a conversation among some railroad men, who, he stated, said the reason they fired over the barracks was in order to keep the negroes from coming into town. This witness was without personal knowledge concerning any of the events of the night, but he stated that after he had learned that he had no information of value, after discussing the matter with Senator Warren they had decided to allow him to go on the stand.

Shots Outside the Walls.

Private Robert L. Collier of Company C, 25th Regiment, was at the guard house on the night of the shooting and heard the shots and located them outside the wall.

He saw no one in the barracks including the colored soldiers. He heard no bullets flying overhead.

Private Robert Turner, also of Company C, was sleeping in the quarters of Lieut. Hayes that night and was merely called to locate his whereabouts on that night, as he was away from his company.

Did Not Plan Revenge.

Private Oscar W. Reed, who was shoved off a gangplank into the water by a customs officer the night before the shooting, testified concerning what happened in C barracks on the night of the 13th of August. He had reported that occurrence to Capt. Macklin, who told him he would look into the matter.

By Senator Foraker: "You were satisfied with that?"

"Yes, sir."

"You didn't go about to organize a conspiracy to shoot up the town?"

"No, sir."

Outside the Barracks.

Edward Johnson, who slept outside the barracks on the night of the 13th with his wife and child, told of hearing the shots from his bedroom.